

WORKING GIRLS

A Cordial Invitation to Every Sick and Ailing Working Girl.

It is to these girls that Mrs. Pinkham holds out a helping hand, and extends a cordial invitation to correspond with her. Her long record of success in treating woman's ills makes her letters of advice of untold value to every ailing working girl, and from her wide experience and skill she quickly points the way to health. Her advice is free, and all letters are held by her in the strictest confidence. Address, Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass. Don't put off writing her until your health is wrecked.

Girls who work are particularly susceptible to female ills, especially when obliged to stand on their feet from morning until night. Day in and day out, month in and month out, the year through, the working girl toils; she is often the bread winner of the family, and must work that others may live; whether she is sick or well, whether it rains or shines, whether it is warm or cold she must get to her place of employment and perform the duties exacted from her.

Among this class the symptoms of female diseases are early manifest by weak and aching backs, pain in the lower limbs and lower part of the stomach; in consequence of frequent wetting of the feet monthly periods become painful and irregular, and frequently there are faint and dizzy spells, with loss of appetite, until life is a burden and it is hard work to drag about. All these symptoms point to a derangement of the female organism, and if taken in time can be easily and permanently cured.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Grateful Words from Working Girls Who Have Been Helped.

"I wish to thank you for the wonderful cure you have discovered for suffering girls. I am a working girl and do not believe there is a girl of my age in the country who has suffered more than I have with female disorders.

"Although ever so many physicians with their various remedies were tried, nothing seemed to relieve me of the terrible pains, and it seemed as though there was no help for me, until I was finally persuaded to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. "It worked like magic, for I had scarcely finished the second bottle when a great change was noticed in my whole general health, and in three months time I felt like a new person."

Miss M. E. PAULSON, 914 Willow Ave., Hoboken, N.J.

"Seeing so many women and girls being helped by your medicine I thought I would try it. I was very irregular in regard to menstruation, and had had no menses for four months.

"I obtained a bottle of your medicine just to see if I could cure myself without going to a doctor. One bottle gave me great relief, and now I am a different girl altogether.

"I will never be without Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, as I know I would not be working to-day if I had not used your medicine."—Miss LAURA RESS, Standard Tea & Grocery Co., 766 Mass. Avenue, Indianapolis, Ind.

Write to the woman who has faith in
LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND.

DISTRICT'S CASE.

Full Text of Opening Argument by Mr. Goddard.

Reasons Why Augusta Insists on Pure Water Supply.

History of the Company and Facts as to River's Pollution.

Below is given the full text of the opening argument of A. M. Goddard, Esq., in behalf of the Augusta Water District. It was delivered before the board of appraisers, yesterday, and sets forth the case so clearly and fairly and in such a comprehensive manner that it should be carefully read by every citizen of Augusta.

It will hardly be questioned that air and sun light are no more essential to human life, health, happiness and good morals, than is a plentiful supply of pure water, which, in this favored State, famed for its myriad inland springs and sparkling lakes of unsurpassed purity nestled among its wooded hills and covering one-tenth of its area, nature has furnished in such lavish superabundance, that it is almost beyond belief that any person or any community here should suffer for QUANTITY or QUALITY of this vital element. Yet, unnecessary and inexcusable as it is, and therefore inexcusable as it should seem, such in fact is the deplorable and alarming condition in our capital city today, and has been increasingly so for years past.

It is not quantity but quality that is deficient. We are indeed supplied with abundant water, but from such a polluted source that it is served to us impregnated with filth and freighted with the germs of disease. Unpleasant to the eye, disagreeable to the taste, disgusting to the mind, a continual menace to health, a fertile source of disease, and with intermittent frequency a prolific fountain of death, this water is shunned as poison. Such is its ill-fame, founded on cruel experience in this community, that although most of our people are compelled to use it in their homes and places of business for washing, bathing and other domestic and sanitary purposes, at a price which, to say the least, should be the maximum for pure water, few will drink it; and nearly all who can afford it, and many who cannot, will purchase also spring water, at nearly equal or often greater cost, while a large portion of those who cannot afford such luxury, at considerable inconvenience provide themselves and their families with drinking water from cisterns, private springs and wells; of which last, some may say little more wholesome than the general water supply, though more accessible to the senses and to sentiment.

Though the burden of this excessive expense, this great public inconvenience and prevailing danger, with its consequences so disastrous to health and life, bear with especial and intolerable pressure upon the residents of Augusta, we are not the only people interested. The situation affects the strangers within our gates who come here on private business or for pleasure, and those who otherwise would come here, and especially those whose private interests or public duties compel their attendance at our court house or at the capital, and therefore concerns every section of the State.

Who is responsible? Who is at fault? Who is to be blamed for this insufferable condition?

These questions answer themselves. In violation of public duty and charter obligations, and in disregard of warning and entreaty, the nuisance has been perpetuated without promise of amelioration or hope of relief, until brought before the legislature.

Since the present water works were installed there has been an alarming increase of typhoid fever in Augusta, with recurrent epidemics of the disease, evidently the result of a polluted and

infected water supply. But the people have been exceedingly patient and long-suffering in their endurance of these growing evils, until the distressing typhoid epidemic, directly caused by the impurity of our water supply, in the winter of 1903 spread through all sections of the city which are supplied by the Augusta Water Company's mains, and carried sickness and distress to hundreds of homes with death to many; when the situation became desperate, and with the energy of despair, for the preservation of life and health, we took this step which other communities in this and other states have taken for merely economic reasons; seeking from the legislature that measure of relief of which this present hearing is the culmination.

Patience as we have been in suffering wrong, we have been equally moderate, conservative and fair in the form and nature of the remedy which we have sought and have obtained, to the extent, as many believe, of being too considerate of the interests of a corporation which, by a violation of its charter obligations, has forfeited its franchise, in that, under circumstances which would have justified the granting to us of a charter to establish competitive works, we have only asked for the privilege of buying the present works at the full, fair value, not only of the plant but of the franchise also. Right or wrong, we have consented to buy and pay for the franchise as well as the works, and of course we expect to pay for both a fair price.

While, as I have said, it was a question of life or death with us, and not primarily an economic question, the motive and sole object being to obtain a supply of pure water, the question of finance, that is, the question of how much we shall be obliged to pay for the works, and more especially for the franchise, has a most important bearing on the question of accomplishing the original purpose of our undertaking. For if we are obliged to pay for the works and the franchise such sum as would represent a result based on the lawful net earning capacity of the plant, regardless of the impurity of the water, we should be practically in the same situation from which we sought, and from which the legislature intended to give us relief. Our water rates are beyond the maximum allowed by law for pure water. We can not raise them. We have no power of taxation and we have no other source of income. We must borrow the money to buy and improve the works, and from the net income of the plant we must pay the interest on this loan, and lay aside annually the sum required for our sinking fund. Of course we can not borrow money in excess of the earning capacity of the works. And if we are obliged to pay for the works a price based on their earnings, without due deduction for impurity of the water, we can never make the improvements and extensions necessary to obtain a pure water supply, because such improvement and extension, while very expensive, would not add to the earning capacity of the plant.

Therefore, in addition to other deductions for defaults in the physical plant and for probable loss of revenue, we shall claim such deduction from the value of the works and franchise, based on the lawful net earning capacity at reasonable water rates, as will enable us to make the improvements and extensions necessary to obtain an abundant supply of pure water, such as the Augusta Water Company, by the terms of its charter, was under legal obligation to furnish, and thus to do ourselves what is now the plain chartered duty of this company to do.

With your permission, I will now briefly trace the history of the Augusta Water Company and the development of its works on hearing on this question, and especially with regard to the sanitary features of the case.

Before any charter was granted for the purpose, Warren Johnson and Adam Lemont had purchased the twenty-four acre lot which is shown on the blue-print as just east of the Devine Springs on the Butman lot, and is now owned by the Augusta Water Company.

On this lot they constructed a dam and impounded the waters of the Kennedy brook, and from this reservoir laid log pipes to and through the streets of the city.

This system was called the Johnson Water Works, taking its name from Warren Johnson, its most active pro-

motor, and it continued to be popularly known by this name even after it was chartered in 1870 as the Augusta Water Company, and down to 1885 when the corporation passed into the control of the present managing owners.

In like manner the Devine Water Works, chartered in 1871, were in operation without a charter prior to the construction of the so-called Johnson Water Works.

AUGUSTA WATER COMPANY'S CHARTER.

Chapter 463 of the Private and Special Laws of 1870, entitled "An act to supply the people of Augusta with pure water," created the Augusta Water Company "for the purpose," as stated in the first section of the act, "of conveying to the city of Augusta a supply of pure water for domestic and municipal purposes." While, in the very title of the act stress is laid on the purity of the supply, the act itself grants the Augusta Water Company corporate life for the one purpose only "of conveying a supply of pure water for domestic and municipal purposes."

For this sole object of its creation was it entrusted with all its other franchise rights and powers, which it cannot lawfully exercise for any other purpose.

It was charged with the performance of a most important public duty which it could not neglect or violate without forfeiture of its right to exist.

Under this charter, which limited the capital stock to \$25,000, and gave no right to issue bonds, Warren Johnson and his associates and successors operated these so-called Johnson Water Works until 1886 when they sold their stock to the present management for \$25,000, as admitted.

At this time the charter had been amended by authorizing an increase of capital stock to \$100,000, and a bond issue of \$100,000 for extension of the works, and by giving the right to take water for the purpose of the charter from the Kennebec river, Webster pond, Silver lake or Coblescotee lake.

Subsequent amendments authorize an increase of capital stock to a total of \$250,000, and a total bond issue of \$225,000.

We understand that of the total bonds authorized, \$100,000 has never been issued, and that the \$250,000 of bonds which were issued, were sufficient to reimburse the new owners, substantially the present owners, for the sums expended in buying up the old stock, and in construction of the present works complete. So that the \$250,000 of capital stock has cost nothing, and represents not one dollar of investment. This has been proved by the books of the company in connection with other evidence.

The present management immediately after obtaining control, in 1886, of the Augusta Water Company charter, having first contracted with this city for hydrant service, proceeded to construct the present plant, and abandoned the old works as useless and practically valueless.

As this property, on which the abandoned works stand, is absolutely useless for the purposes of the company or the Water District, we ought to pay only its fair market value based on a conservative estimate.

Since the new works were installed the company has made no use of this real estate, and has suffered the old works to go to decay. The old works have no structural value whatever. They are a mere ruin. The land, which is indicated on the plan as consisting of three lots, is of no value or use except for agricultural purposes. Its location and physical features render it unfit for building lots. These lots are:

1. The Butman lot, to the west, which is so covered by the springs and reservoirs of the State, the Augusta House and the Devine system, some eighteen in number, and so cut up by pipes and water courses that it is of no value. As Mr. Titcomb testified, the works no longer assign a value to it, and could not suggest a possible use to which it could be put, incumbered as it is.

2. The Homan lot is a rather poor, sloping pasture, encumbered by at least one spring house and the pipe line easement from all the upper springs.

We shall show that the last two lots have very little value.

Leaving the general values to my distinguished associate from Boston to discuss, I will briefly state our position on the quality of the water and the source of supply.

And if in describing the pollution of the water which this company furnishes, some of our evidence is revolting, I need not apologize; for we must show you the facts, and if the facts are disgusting, certainly it is not our fault.

The Kennebec river, from which the Augusta Water Company takes its supply, is the great natural sewer of central Maine.

Not only does it directly or indirectly ultimately receive all the wash and drainage, and with it all the pollution from the inhabitants on its great watershed, but worse than that, it receives directly into its waters only a few miles above Augusta all the waste and refuse of the many mills, pulp, paper, cotton, woolen and other factories, continually discharged in large quantities. Hundreds of gallons of dyes, soaps, acids and chemicals from pulp mills daily emptied into the river from Madison to Waterville, give the water an unpleasant color, taste and odor; and worse than all this, these mills, located on the river banks and employing in the aggregate thousands of hands, drain their water closets directly into the river. In Madison, Skowhegan, Fairfield, Waterville, and Winslow there are many privies so located on the river banks, that either continually or occasionally the contents of their vaults is washed directly into the river. In addition to all this, each of these growing and flourishing towns has a sewer system draining directly into the Kennebec river.

Nor is this pollution diluted by the influence of other streams, for the water of each such stream enters the Kennebec bearing with it its measure of pollution. The Sandy River brings the sewage of Farmington and other towns; the Messalonskee that of Oakland and her mills; the Sebasticook that of Pittsford and other large towns along its course, and of North Vassalborough and her woolen mills.

Worst and most dangerous of all is the pollution from Waterville, because largest in quantity and nearest to us. Waterville's main sewer discharges nearly 500,000 gallons of indescribable filth daily into the Kennebec only 17½ miles, measured by the river, above the intake of the Augusta Water Company.

Two microscopic organisms, well known to science, by their presence unmistakably indicate pollution varying in degree in proportion to their numbers.

One is known as the sewage fungus, and the other known to science as Bacillus Coli, might well be called the fecal germ; it is found in, and distinguishes the excrement of human beings and the higher animals.

The test for these is easy and comparatively simple, as they can be readily propagated in the laboratory.

To ascertain their presence and numbers in a given water, three quantities are taken and a separate culture made from each. One culture from 10 cubic

centimeters of the water to be tested, one from 1 cubic centimeter and one from one-tenth of a cubic centimeter of water. A cubic centimeter is about a third of a teaspoonful, and one-tenth of that quantity is about two drops.

Each day we tested for this Bacillus Coli the three quantities of river water drawn from the laboratory tap connected with the mains of the Augusta Water Co. Many of these tests showed positive results even with the smallest quantity and for weeks nearly every sample of the water contained this germ.

Think of the degree of pollution which gives a fecal germ in every two drops of Kennebec river water. Imagine how many hundreds a person would drink in a glass of water.

At this point the question naturally suggests itself:

What is the effect of drinking these fecal germs and fungi?

As yet it has not been proved that these particular germs are injurious to health; but the danger lies in the sewage pollution and fecal contamination which their presence indicates.

Water thus polluted is always unwholesome in proportion to the degree of its contamination, and at any time, and without warning, is likely to become infected with the germs of deadly disease.

This brings us to the subject of the typhoid fever epidemic in Augusta.

Like other zymotic diseases, typhoid fever can only come from typhoid fever.

It is not contagious like scarlet fever, but for the infection to occur, the typhoid germ must enter the intestine, which is the seat of this disease. Practically, then the germ must be swallowed. All the excretions of a typhoid patient contain myriads of these germs; any one of which entering the bowels of a human being may reproduce the disease.

For these reasons typhoid fever is most commonly communicated and spread through polluted drinking water.

These typhoid germs multiply with wonderful rapidity in the human organism, and after they are expelled, while they do not multiply in water, they live for a considerable time at all natural temperatures and under all natural conditions. They have been known to live for weeks even frozen into ice.

Other diseases of the bowels, as dysentery and cholera, are spread by infected water.

In the fall of 1902 and winter of 1903 a very large epidemic of typhoid fever broke out in Waterville, and as would naturally be expected, in about the time required for the germs to reach Augusta by the river current and to germinate here, a large and general epidemic of the disease spread through every section of Augusta which is served by the mains of the Augusta Water Co.

Two hundred and eighty cases with 22 deaths, in a population of about 8600, is the grand summary of this epidemic which raged with unabated fury until the source of contamination in Waterville had ceased.

Is other evidence required to satisfy this honorable commission that this epidemic was caused by the infection of the Kennebec river water through the sewers of Waterville?

If so, we call attention to the fact that the 2500 inmates of the National Home and the 1000 inmates and attendants at the Insane hospital were exempt; unquestionably in consequence of a regulation in both institutions forbidding the drinking of river water.

Furthermore, Halliwell and Gardiner, just below us on the river, which take their water supplies from a pure source, had no epidemic at that time, while Richmond, 18 miles below us, taking its water from the Kennebec river, had an epidemic of typhoid fever shortly following that in Augusta and numbering 20 cases in that small village.

Our canvass shows that of the 280 persons who contracted the disease in Augusta, 220 were supplied in whole or in part with the river water, and it is not surprising that in a city whose general supply was so strongly infected, some of those who did their best to avoid it should have encountered the pestilence.

But my brother in his opening for the Water Company asked, "Why—if

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this epidemic was caused by the Kennebec river water—why it had never occurred before, and had not been repeated again the past winter?"

The last part of the question is answered by the fact that the past winter the river has not been infected by typhoid in Waterville.

The first part is answered by showing that the facts are not as he assumes.

1—There has been a marked and growing increase in typhoid fever in Augusta, out of all proportion to her increase in population, since the establishment of the present water works.

2—During this period there has been a marked difference in the seasonal distribution of the cases, such as is generally recognized as indicating a general water supply cause. Thus, before the introduction of the river water supply, what typhoid fever we had in Augusta came in the early fall months, which is the normal season for the disease in this State, while since then the disease has come to us in the winter.

3—We have had a number of epidemics since the works were installed. Notably the large epidemic of typhoid in the winter of 1903, which, in consequence of three soldiers at the United States Arsenal being stricken by the disease, was officially investigated by the United States surgeon general. The Arsenal then being supplied by the Augusta Water Co., this investigation, which was most thorough, included the pollution and infection of the river water, and the report, strongly condemning the water, was made a part of the surgeon general's annual report for that year and printed by the government.

In 1893, the epidemic was here; the surgeon general's representative was here a long time publicly investigating the cause and the water supply, and ever since then the surgeon general's published report on the same has been here in the State Library.

Can any one believe that the officers of the Augusta Water Co. did not watch with interest that investigation and have curiosity enough to read that report?

The winter of 1894 saw another alarming typhoid epidemic in Augusta, which one of the most skillful physicians in Kennebec county investigated and attributed to the use of the river water. He called the attention of the State Board of Health to the danger, with the result that the Augusta Water Co., instead of making any effort to improve the supply, threatened the doctor with a libel suit.

This is the water which we have thus far had forced upon us but which the large majority of our people will no longer tolerate for any domestic purpose, filtered or unfiltered.

Surprising as it may seem, there probably are "others who drink it" through preference, as my brother told us in opening; although he has offered no proof of it. If so, it only illustrates the old saying that "there is no accounting for taste."

The \$250,000 of capital stock of this company has not cost one dollar. It does not represent one dollar of invested capital. It is all water;—pure water, and is the only pure water in which this company has ever dealt.

It has served no legitimate purpose of the charter, and because it has been used as a means to extort illegally from us the \$200,000 or more which the owners have received in dividends, it certainly ought not to augment the amount which we are to pay for the plant and franchise.

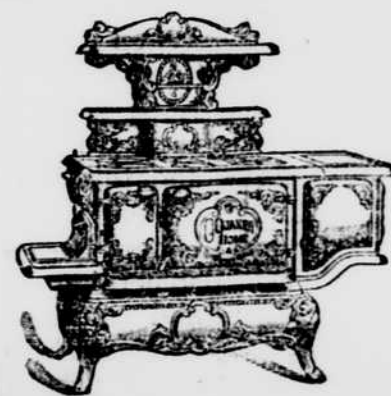
These dividends on unpaid stock represent just so much money wrongfully levied on the people of Augusta by means of extortionate rates for polluted and infected water. It was a scheme to get something for nothing at the price of human misery.

Had they paid into the corporation treasury the full par value of their stock, \$250,000, and expended this entire sum as required by their charter, exclusively for the purpose of providing pure water, they might have furnished us with pure wholesome, delicious water from one of the beautiful lakes in this vicinity, and would have done no more than required by law to entitle them to any dividends at all.

Immediately on taking possession of the works, we must expend a sum equal

(Continued on page 2)

\$1.00 DOWN
and your old range for
first payment and
\$1.00 a Week
buys a
Quaker Home Range



R. W. SOULE, THE HUSTLER, AUGUSTA.